WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES BY DEPUTY S.M. AHIER OF ST. HELIER NORTH QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 15th APRIL 2024 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 22nd APRIL 2024

Question

"Further to the UK Government's plan to introduce a new tax on vapes, will the Minister advise whether she intends to introduce such a tax in Jersey on all or any vaping products?

Answer

The 2024-2027 Government Plan committed to undertaking a study into how taxation could influence consumption of nicotine through vaping. This review is underway and will include consideration of a tax on vapes. Such a tax would not be introduced before 2026 at the earliest.

As the Deputy will know, the Minister for Environment and the Minister for Infrastructure are currently consulting on a proposal to ban disposal vapes. Any recommendation ultimately made with respect to taxing vapes will take account of this work. The health advice has remained consistent: "if you smoke, vaping is much safer; if you don't smoke, don't vape". The Government should therefore ensure that vaping remains accessible for those looking for an effective way to reduce their tobacco consumption.